Digital This Week

Volume 15, Number 4 February 29, 1988

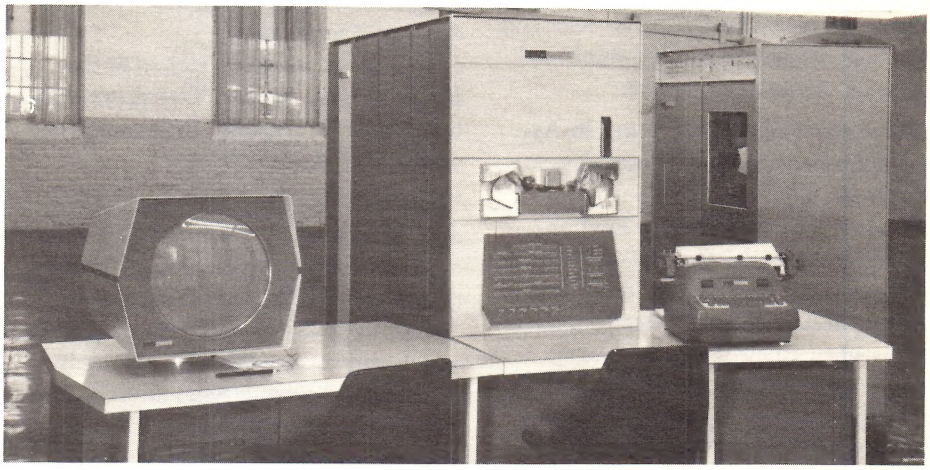
New historical collection to document Digital's product, corporate history

The Digital Historical Collection program has been established to document the company's growth and technological advances over its 30-year history. A series of permanent exhibitions, planned for several Digital facilities, will lead visitors through product chronologies, supported by actual product displays and related materials.

The central collection, an overview of Digital's product and corporate history, is planned to open in the spring of 1988 in a Digital facility in Marlboro. Technologies presented in this exhibition will be described in greater depth at other Digital sites as individual collections. These will include, for example, mid-range VAX systems (Boxboro and Littleton), artificial intelligence (Marlboro), and semiconductors (Hudson, Mass.).

"The objectives of the collection include establishing Digital's place in computing history, documenting our achievements, educating employees, and fostering corporate pride," says Ken Olsen, president. "A number of years ago we started a museum with these goals and it evolved into the Computer Museum in Boston. There was a need for a museum to cover the whole computer industry and Digital has invested heavily to develop it into an industry-wide museum. This has been done with a great deal of success, but it still leaves the issue of documenting Digital's history. This is what we plan to accomplish with the historical collection."

The program is being managed by Gary Eichhorn, Group manager, Laboratory/Science Product Marketing Group and Jamie Pearson, Historical Collection Program manager. A committee has been formed to assist in the design and creation of the exhibitions, including



This photo of Digital's first computer, the PDP-1 system, is representative of the material that's being gathered for the Digital historical collection.

the following representatives and their organizations: Bill Babcock, Semiconductor Operations; Nick Cappello, High Performance Systems; Steve Goldstein, Mid-Range Systems; Suzanne McGuire, Artificial Intelligence Technology; Diane Mercuri, Software Systems Group; Rena Payette, Workstations; Jac Simensen, Networks and Communications; and John Trebendis and Bill Boudette, Property Disposal.

These exhibitions are intended primarily for employees' enjoyment, and their involvement in the program is welcome. Employees who would like more information, or who have ideas or knowledge of equipment that might be used in displays, should contact Jamie in the program office, DTN 297-4402, or through the VAX Notes file (LDP::DEC_HISTORY) maintained for the program. ●

The 'Community Right-to-Know Act' and interpretation of chemical data

Under new U.S. legislation, known as "The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act," companies are required to provide the public with detailed information regarding the types of chemicals they use, how they use them, and in what volumes. The first major reporting deadline, dealing with site chemical inventories, is March 1 this year, with subsequent reports to be filed annually thereafter. Another part of the same law calls for annual reporting of routine chemical "emissions" beginning July 1.

The reporting of chemical inventories is intended to help communities prepare for and deal with emergencies. For instance, if there were a fire in an industrial building, firefighters would need detailed information about any chemicals stored there.

Much of the information to be released

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